

October 19, 1967

Dr. Haskell F. Norman
San Francisco Psychoanalytic Institute
2420 Sutter Street
San Francisco, California 94115

Dear Dr. Norman:

Thank you very much for your letter of October 11, Your additional suggestions, and the print of Freud's article. I do not recall having read just this article, but the argument undoubtedly appears elsewhere in his works and his reasoning did appear quite familiar to me. I am, however, pleased to have this explicit reference. It is curious that I was quoting the narcissistic impulse as one of the pressures that might hasten the adoption of new biological techniques, while that same impulse can, as Freud suggested, impede a rational discussion of their utility and other implications.

The whole matter doubtless warrants much more discussion, but I am glad to say that the evening session did help me to crystallize a perspective on the sources of the reaction I have all too frequently observed to these innovations.

I am enclosing a few relevant writings of my own that you might wish either for your personal file or for the Institute library, or to be discarded, as you see fit.

Sincerely yours,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics